

JOPPA/JOPPATOWNE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Number 112 (03-13)

May 2, 2011

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Joppatowne High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting Number 112 was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of remembrance. Members present were Paula Mullis, Doris G. Carey, Gloria Moon, Betty Byrne, Ron Sollod, James B. Lyons, III, Bob Frisch and Yvonne Baldwin. The Chair acknowledged special guests: Senator Nancy Jacobs; Suzanne Collins, Chief of Staff for Senator Jacobs; Delegate Glen Glass; and Captain Christopher Swain, Commander of Southern Precinct of the Harford County Sheriff's Office. Gloria Moon motioned and Ron Sollod seconded the approval of the April 4 minutes of the Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council.

Sheriff's Office/Community Policing Report

Deputy Crossley of the Harford County Sheriff's Office began his presentation by introducing Captain Swain, Commander of Southern Precinct. He reported that there were 14,012 total calls for service for the County last month. For Sector 10, there were 3,538 calls for service. Deputy Crossley shared information that helmet fittings will take place at local libraries this month and there will be raffles as well. Children and grandchildren are invited to come out and take advantage of this program. Deputy Crossley also stated that everyone in the department is happy that the new precinct building is coming along well. He was thanked by the chairperson.

Presentation – Legislative Update by Senator Nancy Jacobs and Delegate Glen Glass, Legislative District 34A

Delegate Glen Glass stated that his first year in Annapolis was tough. There was a huge learning curve. He did not support gay marriage and voted against the alcohol tax. The incinerator credit bill did not pass and tax relief was denied for affected citizens. He will try to get it passed next year. The bill to extend in-state tuition breaks to undocumented immigrant students passed, and he is helping out with a petition to repeal the law.

Senator Jacobs stated that Glen Glass worked hard and did the best he could in the last legislative session. She said they thought the domestic violence bill would pass but it did not. She was elected minority leader in the Senate and enjoyed working with the Senate President, Mike Miller. Senator Jacobs stated that a bill passed establishing an umbilical cord blood bank. If a child gets ill later on in

life, cord blood can be used to save the child's life. Three hospitals in Baltimore will have a cord blood bank. No State money will be used for the program. A couple of bills that did not pass were one involving septic systems on farms and wind energy. She stated that Annapolis is not business friendly. She expects that there will be a special session for the purpose of redistricting in October. Senator Jacobs and Delegate Glen Glass were thanked for their participation.

Master Plan – Planning and Zoning Presentation by Gloria Moon

Gloria Moon gave a brief update on the master plan. She said that only seven people had any interest in the plan. She shared copies of the "Little Gunpowder Improvement Association's Newsletter" which covered much of the 2011 – 2012 Master Plan. Gloria doesn't see a need to change the plan in the Joppa/Joppatowne community. If anyone has questions concerning the master plan, contact Gloria.

Board of Education Update.

Bob Frisch stated that the Board is trying to not impact education through personnel cuts. He stated that positions could be eliminated without eliminating people. He sees a change of attitude on the Board. The Board at present has two new members. Three of the Board members have been elected and six appointed. Frisch has an issue with the Board not having control over everyone hired or fired in the system. He said that the Board is not actively engaged in the budget process. He is not opposed to spending money on education. The Board's budget is balanced. Frisch encourages people to get involved with the Board by sending in suggestions and by working on changes which concern the community.

Edgewood/Joppatowne Independence Day Parade – Update

Dianna Guthrie convinced business owners at the Joppatowne Shopping Center to allow the carnival to be set up on the shopping center parking lot. The carnival will run from May 23 through May 30, 2011 and will pay for the parade in July. Members of the parade committee will be pre-selling daily ride bracelets at a price of \$12. The regular price will be \$20. Off-duty police will be on duty at the carnival to monitor ticket booths. Money earned from the carnival is the only funding for the parade. The parade committee is now an Edgewood/Joppatowne corporation. The amount of \$13,000 has been budgeted for the parade. Sue Heselton has mailed out all necessary letters, called schools and expects to have eight marching bands. Each band will be paid \$600. Sue has also secured all necessary permits and insurance coverage. The parade will start at the Boys and Girls Club and end at Deerfield Elementary School. More sponsors are needed for the success of the parade. There are plans for two carnivals next year. A scholarship is also being discussed for next year. A special thanks to Sue Heselton who has gotten everything done for the parade. A special thanks to Dion Guthrie for getting the staging done and

for contacting Jamie Costello to be the MC for the parade. The parade will start at 6 P.M. on Saturday, July 2. Special thanks were given to James Lyons, III and Ron Sollod for lining up all the people.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie.

In the last several years, four brand new schools were forward funded projects. Even though \$100 million were spent by the County, the State returned only \$14 million. The \$14 million goes back to the school board. This is the third year in a row that there are no wage increases for county workers. He hoped that changes next year. Dozens of people got raises in the county government. Councilman Guthrie thanked Senator Jacobs and Delegate Glassman for sponsoring SB 395, "Harford County Property Tax Credit - Homes Near a Refuse Disposal System - Extension to Additional Properties." Dion stated that Delegate Rick Impallaria, chairman of the Harford County House Delegation, let the bill die. Dion said he and others have been working on the bill to get tax credits for two or three years; and because of political reasons, residents will not get the tax credit they deserve. He also stated that Kohl's is here in Harford County and will have thousands of available jobs.

Community Updates from Community Council Members and Community.

Ron Sollod spoke briefly about a rabies clinic that vaccinated over 400 animals.

Jim Lyons, III said that red alerts happen daily in the hospitals (hospitals temporarily at maximum capacity), and patients can be on stretchers for as long as two hours. He also reminded everyone to keep a check on their smoke detectors.

Betty Byrne invited the community to Wednesday night Bingos at the Joppa-Magnolia Fire Hall, sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary. The Auxiliary is in the process of remodeling the kitchen. The Bingos will help pay for the remodeling.

Gloria Moon will answer any questions the community may have about the Master Plan.

Paula Mullis mentioned a bull roast that is being held to help projects in the community. She also thanked Dion for pulling off the shrimp feast that will be held on May 14.

Sue Heselton suggested items that the Humane Society wishes to receive as donations.

Doris Carey mentioned that on May 19, pending fulfillment of all graduation requirements, 553 candidates will graduate from Harford Community College.

Chairperson Mullis thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and invited them to bring their neighbors to the next meeting.

Jim Lyons, III motioned and Ron Sollod seconded the meeting to be adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Minutes by Doris G. Carey